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Remarks

In view of the above amendments to the claims and the following discussion, the applicants submit that the claims now pending in the application are not anticipated under the provisions of 35 U. S. C. § 102, or obvious under the provisions of 35 U. S. C. § 103. Furthermore, the applicants believe that all of the claims satisfy the requirements of 35 U. S. C. § 112. Thus, the applicants believe that all of these claims are in allowable form.

REJECTIONS

A. 35 U. S. C. § 112

1. Claim 5

Claim 5 stands rejected under 35 U. S. C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In particular, the Examiner indicates that the phrase "the vibration damping means" has insufficient antecedent basis. Applicants have amended claim 5 to delete the phrase "the vibration damping means" and replace it with the phrase "a vibration damping means".

In view of this amendment to claims 5, the basis for the Examiner's rejection thereof under 35 U. S. C. § 112, second paragraph has been removed. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

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B. 35 U. S. C. § 102

1. Claims 1-2 and 4-7 are not anticipated by Tsutsui et al.

Claims 1-2 and 4-7 stand rejected under 35 U. S. C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Tsutsui et al. (U. S. Patent 3,987,258 issued October 19, 1976). The applicants submit that these claims are not anticipated by this reference.

Claim 1 is directed to a cabinet for an electronic device equipped with loudspeakers (see, specification at page 1, lines 5-6). The cabinet includes a first cabinet 4 for housing electrical and mechanical components of the electronic device and having a first wall 6 and a second wall 7 (see, specification at FIGS. 2a-2b and page 2, lines 13-15 and lines 26-27). The first cabinet 4 also includes a confining area 8 for connecting the first wall 6 to the second wall 7 and for accommodating a separate second cabinet 9 for the loudspeaker 11 (see, specification at FIG. 2a and page 2, lines 15-16 and lines 27-28). A sidewall of the second cabinet 9 is formed to follow the shape of the confining area 8 (see, specification at FIGS. 2-3 and page 6, lines 13-15) and the second cabinet 9 is connected to the first cabinet 4 in a non-detachable manner (see, specification at FIG. 2b and page 2, lines 16-18).

Tsutsui et al. describes a sound apparatus (see, Tsutsui et al. at column 1, line 8). The sound apparatus includes a cabinet 1 divided into two half shells 1a, 1b (see, Tsutsui et al. at FIG. 1 and column 2, lines 8-10). A rubber seal 2 is disposed between the joining surfaces of the half shells 1a, 1b (see, Tsutsui et al. at FIG. 1 and column 2, lines 10-11). A filter 12 regulates the air pressure within the cabinet 1 (see, Tsutsui et al. at FIG. 1 and column 2, lines 54-62). In order to regulate the pressure within the cabinet 1 air must necessarily flow between the two half shells 1a, 1b.

Tsutsui et al. does not describe or suggest an electronic device having a cabinet including a first cabinet for housing electrical and mechanical components of the electronic device having a first wall and a second wall, the

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first cabinet having a confining area for connecting the first wall to the second wall and for accommodating a separate second cabinet for the loudspeaker, wherein a sidewall of the second cabinet is formed to follow the shape of the confining area and wherein the second cabinet is connected to the first cabinet in a non-detachable manner. Rather, Tsutsui et al. only teaches a sound apparatus including a cabinet in which air flowing between two half shells is regulated by a filter. Since Tsutsui et al. does not describe or suggest an electronic device having a cabinet including a first cabinet for housing electrical and mechanical components of the electronic device having a first wall and a second wall, the first cabinet having a confining area for connecting the first wall to the second wall and for accommodating a separate second cabinet for the loudspeaker, wherein a sidewall of the second cabinet is formed to follow the shape of the confining area and wherein the second cabinet is connected to the first cabinet in a non-detachable manner, claim 1 is patentable over Tsutsui et al.

Claims 2 and 4-7 depend directly, or indirectly, from claim 1. For the same reasons as stated above for claim 1, claims 2 and 4-7 are also patentable over Tsutsui et al.

C. 35 U. S. C. § 103

1. Claim 3 is not unpatentable over Tsutsui et al. in view of Heisrath

Claim 3 stands rejected under 35 U. S. C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsutsui et al. (U. S. Patent 3,987,258 issued October 19, 1976) in view of Heisrath (U. S. Patent 3,473,625 issued October 21, 1969). The applicants submit that this claim is not rendered obvious by the combination of these references.

Claim 3 depends from claim 1 and is directed to a cabinet for an electronic device equipped with loudspeakers (see, specification at page 1, lines 5-6). The cabinet includes a first cabinet 4 for housing electrical and mechanical

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components of the electronic device and having a first wall 6 and a second wall 7 (see, specification at FIGS. 2a-2b and page 2, lines 13-15 and lines 26-27). The first cabinet 4 also includes a confining area 8 for connecting the first wall 6 to the second wall 7 and for accommodating a separate second cabinet 9 for the loudspeaker 11 (see, specification at FIG. 2a and page 2, lines 15-16 and lines 27-28). A sidewall of the second cabinet 9 is formed to follow the shape of the confining area 8 (see, specification at FIGS. 2-3 and page 6, lines 13-15) and the second cabinet 9 is connected to the first cabinet 4 in a non-detachable manner (see, specification at FIG. 2b and page 2, lines 16-18).

Tsutsui et al. describes a sound apparatus (see, Tsutsui et al. at column 1, line 8). The sound apparatus includes a cabinet 1 divided into two half shells 1a, 1b (see, Tsutsui et al. at FIG. 1 and column 2, lines 8-10). A rubber seal 2 is disposed between the joining surfaces of the half shells 1a, 1b (see, Tsutsui et al. at FIG. 1 and column 2, lines 10-11). A filter 12 regulates the air pressure within the cabinet 1 (see, Tsutsui et al. at FIG. 1 and column 2, lines 54-62). In order to regulate the pressure within the cabinet 1 air must necessarily flow between the two half shells 1a, 1b.

Tsutsui et al. does not describe or suggest an electronic device having a cabinet including a first cabinet for housing electrical and mechanical components of the electronic device having a first wall and a second wall, the first cabinet having a confining area for connecting the first wall to the second wall and for accommodating a separate second cabinet for the loudspeaker, wherein a sidewall of the second cabinet is formed to follow the shape of the confining area and wherein the second cabinet is connected to the first cabinet in a non-detachable manner. Rather, Tsutsui et al. only teaches a sound apparatus including a cabinet in which air flowing between two half shells is regulated by a filter. Since Tsutsui et al. does not describe or suggest an electronic device having a cabinet including a first cabinet for housing electrical and mechanical components of the electronic device having a first wall and a second wall, the first cabinet having a confining area for connecting the first wall to the second

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wall and for accommodating a separate second cabinet for the loudspeaker, wherein a sidewall of the second cabinet is formed to follow the shape of the confining area and wherein the second cabinet is connected to the first cabinet in a non-detachable manner, claim 1 is patentable over Tsutsui et al.

Heisrath describes a loudspeaker assembly (see, Heisrath at column 1, lines 12-14). The loudspeaker assembly is affixed to a cabinet (see, Heisrath at column 1, lines 14-15).

Heisrath does not describe or suggest an electronic device having a cabinet including a first cabinet for housing electrical and mechanical components of the electronic device having a first wall and a second wall, the first cabinet having a confining area for connecting the first wall to the second wall and for accommodating a separate second cabinet for the loudspeaker, wherein a sidewall of the second cabinet is formed to follow the shape of the confining area and wherein the second cabinet is connected to the first cabinet in a non-detachable manner. Rather, Heisrath only teaches a loudspeaker assembly is affixed to a cabinet. Since Heisrath does not describe or suggest an electronic device having a cabinet including a first cabinet for housing electrical and mechanical components of the electronic device having a first wall and a second wall, the first cabinet having a confining area for connecting the first wall to the second wall and for accommodating a separate second cabinet for the loudspeaker, wherein a sidewall of the second cabinet is formed to follow the shape of the confining area and wherein the second cabinet is connected to the first cabinet in a non-detachable manner, claim 3 is patentable over Heisrath.

Furthermore, since Tsutsui et al. only teaches a sound apparatus including a cabinet in which air flowing between two half shells is regulated by a filter and Heisrath only teaches a loudspeaker assembly is affixed to a cabinet, the combination of these references does not describe or suggest applicants arrangement recited in claim 3. In particular, claim 3 recites an electronic device having a cabinet including a first cabinet for housing electrical and mechanical components of the electronic device having a first wall and a second wall, the

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first cabinet having a confining area for connecting the first wall to the second wall and for accommodating a separate second cabinet for the loudspeaker, wherein a sidewall of the second cabinet is formed to follow the shape of the confining area and wherein the second cabinet is connected to the first cabinet in a non-detachable manner. Thus, claim 3 is patentable over the combination of these references.

CONCLUSION

Thus, the applicants submit that none of the claims presently in the application are anticipated under the provisions of 35 U. S. C. § 102, or obvious under the provisions of 35 U. S. C. § 103. Furthermore, the applicants believe that all of the claims satisfy the requirements of 35 U. S. C. § 112. Consequently, the applicants believe that all of the claims are presently in condition for allowance. Accordingly, both reconsideration of this application and its swift passage to issue are earnestly solicited.

If, however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues requiring adverse final action in any of the claims now pending in the application, it is requested that the Examiner telephone Ms. Patricia A. Verlangieri, at (609) 734-6867, so that appropriate arrangements can be made for resolving such issues as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted,


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August 31, 2007